

A 1
d) exposing said photosensitizer to said environmental condition.

A 2
3.(amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said environmental condition is a specific illumination source, within the visible or near infrared region of the electromagnetic spectrum.

6.(amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said photosensitizer is bonded to said surface [by a linking mechanism], said [linking mechanism] bond being cleavable by singlet oxygen.

7.(amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said photosensitizer is preferentially modified to have a targeting molecule attached, said targeting molecule [designed] selected to target and be attractive to [problem] predetermined microbes.

A 3
8.(amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said surface bonded with said photosensitizer is exposed to short periods of said environmental condition to release singlet oxygen and cleave said linking mechanism, followed by a period of no exposure to said environmental condition to allow microbes to contact or absorb said photosensitizer, and then long periods of said environmental condition to produce singlet oxygen to destroy said microbes.

9.(amended) A photosensitizer containing formulation for imparting antimicrobial properties to a surface comprising a photosensitizer, in a topically available form, capable of being activated by environmental conditions, other than ultraviolet light, under which said surface is required to exhibit antimicrobial activity.

10.(amended) The photosensitizer containing formulation of claim 9, wherein said photosensitizer is preferentially modified to have a targeting molecule attached, said targeting molecule [designed] selected to target and be attractive to [problem] predetermined microbes.

A 4
14.(amended) The product of claim 13 wherein said photosensitizer is preferentially modified to have a targeting molecule attached, said targeting molecule [designed] selected to target and be attractive to [problem] predetermined microbes.

REMARKS

In contrast to the primary prior art reference, WO 01/34211 by Curry et al., the photosensitizer containing formulation for imparting antimicrobial properties to a surface do not require special UltraViolet (UV) light to be activated; they do not merely sit like dust on the